



Cpl. Jeff M. Nagan

Senior Airman Donald Campbell, heavy equipment operator for the 219th and 254th Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron, signals Senior Airman Patrick Scott, a heavy equipment operator with RED HORSE. Their unit assisted in delivering four boxes Sunday, filled with medical and hygiene supplies and clothes that will ultimately be distributed to the people living in Arhiba, a poor district of Djibouti City.

## Project Handclasp touches down in Djibouti

### *Navy lends hand to needy residents of Arhiba district*

CPL. JEFF M. NAGAN  
THE HORN COURIER

**D**JIBOUTI CITY, Djibouti - In a joint effort between the Navy and local humanitarian relief workers, four pallets filled with needed supplies were delivered Sunday to the impoverished Arhiba district of Djibouti City.

Project Handclasp, a Navy program that has been providing humanitarian assistance for more than 40

years, gathered and shipped 40 pallets to Camp Lemonier to be distributed within the Horn of Africa, 14 of which will be distributed throughout Djibouti.

Project Handclasp's primary mission is to receive and distribute humanitarian, educational and goodwill materials, according to Project Handclasp officials. It is an effective

way Americans extend the hand of friendship to disadvantaged citizens of other nations throughout the world.

"This is the first distribution of Project Handclasp in Djibouti," said Command Sgt. Maj. Michael E. Chumbler, country desk noncommissioned officer for Djibouti. "We delivered four boxes filled with supplies that will be given to those in need."

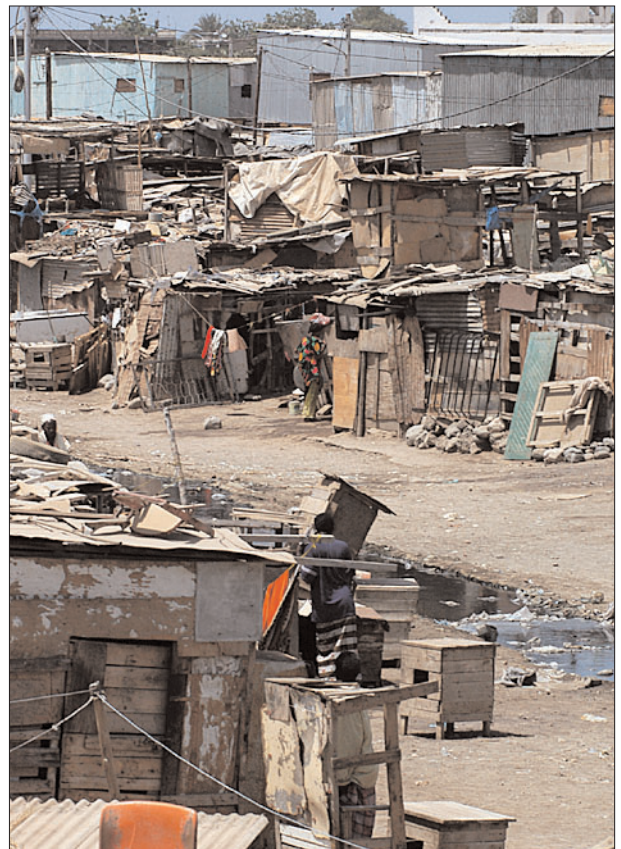
Airmen of the 219th and 254th Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron from Camp Lemonier assisted in delivering the pallets to Arhiba. Each four foot square box was filled with medical and hygiene supplies and a variety of clothes.

The people of this area are very poor, said

Abdoulkader Houmed Daud, president for the Association Supportive D'Arhiba. Most of the people living in Arhiba are jobless and are forced to live in shacks, many built of mere paper. Project Handclasp is a small gift from America that will help these people.

**"Given the conditions the people of Arhiba endure, it's my fervent hope that these supplies will bring at least a small ray of hope to them."**

*-Sgt. Maj. Michael E. Chumbler*



Cpl. Jeff M. Nagan

The people of Arhiba live in homes constructed of scrap wood, paper and cloth. Many of the homes have entire families living under one small roof.

See CLASP, page 7